

*House Administration Passes Bill to Eliminate Election Assistance Commission and Save Taxpayers \$14 Million Annually*

**WASHINGTON** – Today, the Committee on House Administration, led by Chairman Dan Lungren, R-Calif., passed H.R. 672, the Election Support Consolidation and Efficiency Act, by voice vote. The bill, introduced by Subcommittee on Elections Chairman Gregg Harper, R-Miss., would eliminate the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and save taxpayers \$14 million annually.

After the markup, Lungren issued the following statement:

*“First, I want to thank Mr. Harper for his leadership on this important issue. His efforts and willingness to work with the election community – those directly impacted – has produced a bill that will finally eliminate an agency that has long outlived its purpose.*

*“In the coming weeks the House will face difficult decisions regarding the fiscal path of this nation.□ The termination of the EAC, however, is an obvious and simple choice.□ We simply cannot justify spending \$14 million each year on a program that even its direct beneficiaries deem unnecessary. Again, I thank Mr. Harper and encourage the quick adoption of this important legislation.”*

If adopted, the legislation would eliminate the EAC and transfer its remaining valuable service, its voting system testing and certification program, to the Federal Election Commission (FEC). The legislation would also include a formal feedback mechanism for the development of the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines by creating a Guidelines Review Board.